



## U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2015

*The U.S.-China Economic and Security Review Commission was created by Congress to report on the national security implications of the bilateral trade and economic relationship between the United States and the People's Republic of China. For more information, visit [www.uscc.gov](http://www.uscc.gov).*

**- HEARING NOTICE -****Looking West: China and Central Asia**

**Hearing Co-Chairs:** Vice Chairman Dennis Shea and Commissioner Katherine Tobin Ph.D.

**WHAT: Public Hearing on "Looking West: China and Central Asia."** One of the hallmarks of Xi Jinping's administration has been a highly visible effort to reinvigorate ties with Central Asia. In the past two years, China has established a "Silk Road Economic Belt", allocated billions of dollars to major energy and infrastructure projects, and enhanced political, social, and security ties with its western neighbors. The Commission's hearing seeks to examine the drivers of China's engagement with Central Asia, its impacts on regional economic security and stability, and its implications for U.S. policy objectives in the region.

**WHEN: Wednesday, March 18th, 2015, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.** Reservations are not required to attend – seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**WHERE: TBD – please refer to [www.uscc.gov](http://www.uscc.gov) for updates**

**PANEL INFO:** Panelists' bios and written statements will be available on the Commission's website at [www.uscc.gov](http://www.uscc.gov) on Wednesday, March 18th, 2015.

**HEARING AGENDA:**

9:00a - 9:15a **Co-Chairs' remarks: Vice Chairman Dennis Shea and Commissioner Katherine Tobin Ph.D.**

9:15a - 10:45a **Panel I: China's Silk Road Policy**

- Mr. Raffaello Pantucci, Director of International Security Studies, Royal United Services Institute for Defence and Security Studies, London, UK

- Dr. Marlene Laruelle, Director, Central Asia Program, Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University, Washington, DC
- Dr. S. Frederick Starr, Chairman, Central Asia-Caucasus Institute and Silk Road Studies Program, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, Washington, DC

10:45a – 11:00a **Break**

11:00a - 12:30p **Panel II: Trade, Infrastructure, and Natural Resources in China's Central Asia Engagement**

- Dr. Alexander Cooley, Professor, Political Science, Barnard College, Columbia University, New York, NY
- Dr. Sebastian Peyrouse, Research Professor of International Affairs, George Washington University, Washington, DC
- Dr. Erica Downs, Senior Analyst, Eurasia Group, Washington, DC

12:30p - 1:30p **Lunch Break**

1:30p - 3:00p **Panel III: China's Security Engagement in Central Asia and the Question of Afghanistan**

- Dr. Michael Clarke, Senior Research Fellow, Griffith Asia Institute, Griffith University, Nathan, Australia
- Dr. Niklas Swanström, Director, Institute for Security and Development Policy, Stockholm, Sweden
- Mr. Andrew Small, Transatlantic Fellow, German Marshall Fund of the United States

3:00p **Adjourn**

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*Visit the USCC website, [www.uscc.gov](http://www.uscc.gov), for transcripts of previous hearings, commissioned research reports, the Commission's annual reports to the Congress, and other information about the Commission's activities.*